

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A polymer composition comprising:

a block copolymer (a) ~~including~~ comprising a polymer block A, which is composed mainly of an α -methylstyrene, and a hydrogenated or unhydrogenated polymer block B, which is composed of a conjugated diene or isobutylene and has a weight average molecular weight of 30,000 to 200,000;

an acrylic resin (b); and

a softener (c)[[,]]; and

wherein proportions (by mass) of respective components in the polymer composition are such that each of the following relationships (1) and (2) holds:

$$0.05 \leq W_b/W_a \leq 2 \quad (1) \text{ and}$$

$$W_c/(W_a + W_b + W_c) \leq 0.5 \quad (2)$$

wherein W_a , W_b , and W_c represent the amounts (by mass) of the block copolymer (a), the acrylic resin (b) and the softener (c), respectively.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The polymer composition according to claim 1, wherein the block copolymer (a) comprises:

(1) a polymer block A composed mainly of an α -methylstyrene and having a weight average molecular weight of 1,000 to 50,000; and

(2) a polymer block B including a block b1 that has a weight average molecular weight of 1,000 to 30,000, and in which less than 30% of the conjugated diene units to constitute the block are linked via 1,4-linkages, and a block b2 that has a weight average molecular weight of 25,000 to 190,000, and in which 30% or more of the conjugated diene units to constitute the block are linked via 1,4-linkages; and

wherein the block copolymer (a) includes at least one A-b1-b2 structure.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The polymer composition according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the polymer composition has a morphology in which the block copolymer (a) forms a continuous phase (matrix) and the acrylic resin (b) forms particles having an average particle size of 0.2 μ m or less, that are dispersed throughout the continuous phase, forming sea-island structures, the block copolymer (a) having the polymer block A composed mainly of an α -methylstyrene, and the hydrogenated or unhydrogenated polymer block B composed of the conjugated diene or isobutylene, the block copolymer (a) having a weight average molecular weight of 30,000 to 200,000.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A stretchable material formed of the polymer composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1.

Claim 5 (Original): The stretchable material according to claim 4, wherein the stretchable material is provided in the form of a film, strand, band, or nonwoven fabric formed of the polymer composition.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The stretchable material according to claim 4, wherein the stretchable material yields a 0.8MPa or larger stress when formed into a 1mm thick, No.2 dumbbell-molded sample piece, according to JIS K 6251, and stretched by 50% at a test speed of 20mm/min at 25°C, with the grip distance of 70mm, and gives a 50% or higher stress retention after held under the conditions for 2 hours.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A laminate comprising a layer formed of the polymer composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, and a layer formed of a different material.

Claim 8 (Original): The laminate according to claim 7, wherein the different material is a thermoplastic resin.

Claim 9 (Original): The laminate according to claim 8, wherein the different material comprises at least one thermoplastic resin selected from the group consisting of olefin-based resin, olefin-based thermoplastic elastomer, styrene-based thermoplastic elastomer, and a resin composition containing a styrene-based thermoplastic elastomer.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The laminate according to claim 7, having comprising an outermost layer formed of the polymer composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1, and a layer formed of a different material.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A foam composition comprising the polymer composition according to claim 1, ~~or 2~~ and a blowing agent (d), and wherein the blowing agent (d) ~~being~~ is contained in a proportion (by mass), such that the following relationship (3) holds:

$$0.01 \leq W_d / (W_a + W_b + W_c) \leq 0.1 \quad (3)$$

wherein W_a , W_b , W_c , and W_d represent the amounts (by mass) of the block copolymer (a), the acrylic resin (b), the softener (c), and the blowing agent (d) that together form the foam composition, respectively.

Claim 12 (Original): A foam obtained by foaming the foam composition according to claim 11.

Claim 13 (New): The polymer composition according to claim 2, wherein the polymer composition has a morphology in which the block copolymer (a) forms a continuous phase (matrix) and the acrylic resin (b) forms particles having an average particle size of 0.2 μ m or less, that are dispersed throughout the continuous phase, forming sea-island structures, the block copolymer (a) having the polymer block A composed mainly of an α -methylstyrene, and the hydrogenated or unhydrogenated polymer block B composed of the conjugated diene or isobutylene, the block copolymer (a) having a weight average molecular weight of 30,000 to 200,000.

Claim 14 (New): A stretchable material formed of the polymer composition according to claim 2.

Claim 15 (New): A stretchable material formed of the polymer composition according to claim 3.

Claim 16 (New): A laminate comprising a layer formed of the polymer composition according to claim 2, and a layer formed of a different material.

Claim 17 (New): A laminate comprising a layer formed of the polymer composition according to claim 3, and a layer formed of a different material.

Claim 18 (New): A laminate comprising an outermost layer formed of the polymer composition according to claim 2, and a layer formed of a different material.

Claim 19 (New): A laminate comprising an outermost layer formed of the polymer composition according to claim 3, and a layer formed of a different material.

Claim 20 (New): A foam composition comprising the polymer composition according to claim 2, and a blowing agent (d), and wherein the blowing agent (d) is contained in a proportion (by mass), such that the following relationship (3) holds:

$$0.01 \leq Wd/(Wa + Wb + Wc) \leq 0.1 \quad (3)$$

wherein Wa, Wb, Wc, and Wd represent the amounts (by mass) of the block copolymer (a), the acrylic resin (b), the softener (c), and the blowing agent (d) that together form the foam composition, respectively.